

water was added and the two layers separated. The bottom oil phase was washed with two 100-cc. portions of water. The combined aqueous extract was washed with two 100-cc. portions of benzene. The benzene extract, combined with the oil, was dried with sodium sulfate. After removal of the benzene the residue was vacuum fractionated at 3 mm. pressure, the product being recovered at 155–159°,  $n_D^{25}$  1.6012, yield 123 g. (65%).

Anal. Calc'd for  $C_8H_{15}NS_2$ : S, 33.86. Found: S, 33.48.

**1-(Methyl carbodithioate)-piperidine.** Without recovering the product, an aqueous suspension of 1-(sodium carbodithioate)-piperidine was prepared from a mixture comprising 40 g. (1 mole) NaOH in 100 cc.  $H_2O$ , carbon disulfide (60 cc., 1 mole) and 85 g. (99 cc., 1 mole) piperidine in 100 cc. water. The piperidine was added in 1 hr. and the mixture allowed to stir for 30 min. The ice-salt bath was removed and 142 g. (1 mole) of methyl iodide added at once and the mixture refluxed for 1 hr. and allowed to cool to room temperature. The oil layer was recovered as described previously and after drying, vacuum fractionated at 6 mm., the product being collected over the range 171–176°.

Anal. Calc'd for  $C_7H_{13}NS_2$ : N, 8.00; S, 36.58. Found: N, 7.85; S, 36.30.

**Thiocarbohydrazide.** A mixture comprising 40 g. (0.21 mole) of 1-(ethyl carbodithioate)-piperidine, 10 cc. of 85% hydrazine hydrate (0.26 mole) and 150 cc. ethanol was refluxed for 6 hours. No precipitation of product took place after cooling at 5° for 48 hr. However, precipitation occurred after concentrating the reaction mixture by distillation of the solvent and cooling. Cooling of the mother liquor resulted in the precipitation of a crystalline solid having properties different from thiocarbohydrazide. This is described below. From the new mother liquid additional yield of thiocarbohydrazide was obtained by the addition of water. Yield, 9.4 g. (42.3%), m.p. 164–174° (Parr Block) dec.

Anal. Calc'd for  $CH_5N_4S$ : N, 52.79. Found: N, 53.0.

**1-(Aminothiocabamyl)-piperidine.** The first mother liquor obtained in the above preparation yielded 1.5 g. (3.9%) of a white crystalline material which, after recrystallization from a minimum quantity of aqueous methanol, melted at 92–95°.

Anal. Calc'd for  $C_6H_{13}N_3S$ : N, 26.39; S, 20.48. Found: N, 26.4; S, 20.13.

**1-(Benzylideneaminothiocarbamyl)-piperidine** was prepared from 1 cc. benzaldehyde, 0.5 g. 1-(aminothiocabamyl)-piperidine, 0.4 g. sodium acetate and 10 cc. ethanol by refluxing and cooling. Recrystallized from ethanol, m.p. 125–128°.

Anal. Calc'd for  $C_{13}H_{17}N_3S$ : N, 17.00; S, 12.98. Found: N, 17.01; S, 12.96.

**Benzaldehyde 3-thiocarbohydrazide** was prepared from 0.5 g. thiocarbohydrazide prepared above. M.p. 190–200° with dec.

Anal. Calc'd for  $C_{13}H_{14}N_4S$ : N, 19.85; S, 11.35. Found: N, 19.6; S, 11.25.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
DE PAUL UNIVERSITY  
CHICAGO 14, ILL.

## Synthesis of 6-Nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde

ARTHUR F. ROSENTHAL<sup>1</sup>

Received Aug. 20, 1956

In connection with the synthesis of compounds related to mescaline, it was found necessary to prepare both 5-nitro-2,3-dimethoxy benzaldehyde and 6-nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde. Murakami's

(1) Present address: c/o Dr. Robert P. Geyer, Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston 15, Massachusetts.

method<sup>2</sup> for the synthesis of the 5-nitro compound was found to be the most satisfactory. The synthesis of 6-nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde recently reported by Ried and Schiller<sup>3</sup> however, has the disadvantage that the last step, the methylation of 6-nitro-*o*-vanillin, gave a low yield and a product that required considerable purification.

An attempt to apply Murakami's acetal procedure<sup>2</sup> to this methylation failed; apparently the dimethyl acetal of 6-nitro-*o*-vanillin is formed much less readily than the corresponding 5-nitro acetal. However, it was found that with methyl iodide and silver oxide, which was used by Davies<sup>4</sup> in the preparation of 5-nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde, the methylation proceeded smoothly to give 6-nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde of satisfactory purity in moderately good yield.

An interesting peculiarity of the 6-nitro intermediates as well as of 6-nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde is a considerable sensitivity to light.<sup>5</sup> Thus, the entire preparation from the benzenesulfonate ester of *o*-vanillin is best performed all at once and the final product stored in the dark.

## EXPERIMENTAL<sup>5</sup>

**6-Nitro-2,3-dimethoxybenzaldehyde.** 6-Nitro-*o*-vanillin, freshly prepared from 63 g. (0.21 mole) of 6-nitro-*o*-vanillin benzenesulfonate ester, was used immediately after recrystallization without drying. It was refluxed in a mixture of 90 ml. of chloroform and 15 ml. of methyl iodide with 21 g. of powdered silver oxide. After filtration, the chloroform solution was washed twice with 50 ml. portions of 10 per cent sodium hydroxide, then with water, and finally evaporated to dryness. The residue after recrystallization from methanol weighed 10.5 g., m.p. 107–109°. A second recrystallization gave 8.5 g. of fine, faintly yellow needles (22 per cent overall from the nitrated ester), m.p. 109–110.5° (reported<sup>3</sup> 108–110°).

The 6-nitro-*o*-vanillin benzenesulfonate ester had a m.p. of 154–155°, instead of the reported<sup>3,4</sup> 145°.

**Acknowledgment.** The author is grateful to Dr. I. M. Hunsberger for his many helpful suggestions.

FELS RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND  
CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT  
ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

- (2) M. Murakami, *Ann.*, **496**, 122 (1932).
- (3) W. Ried and H. Schiller, *Ber.*, **85**, 216 (1952).
- (4) W. Davies, *J. Chem. Soc.*, **123**, 1575 (1923).
- (5) All melting points are uncorrected.

## Cleavage of Phthalylglycine by Substituted Hydrazines

ARTHUR F. ROSENTHAL<sup>1</sup>

Received Aug. 20, 1956

The cleavage of N-substituted phthalimides by hydrazine, which was studied extensively by Ing

(1) Present address, c/o Dr. Robert P. Geyer, Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston 15, Massachusetts.